

## The Activities of the Missouri Farmers' Association

### A "New Deal" Among Farmers

During the recent Fourth Liberty Loan campaign in Kansas City, the door of one of the big assembly rooms at the Hotel Baltimore burst open, when the spokesman of a group of big Kansas City business men stepped in and asked, "Is this headquarters for the Liberty Loan Committee?" "No," replied Samuel J. Kleinschmidt, President of the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n; "I am sorry we do not have that honor. This is a meeting of the directors of the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n. We went 'over the top' out in the country several days ago and if you fellows need help, say so." "The Missouri Farmers' Ass'n!" exclaimed the spokesman incredulously. "What in h— is that?" Then turning to his companions, he asked, "Does this bunch look like farmers to you fellows?" And meeting at a swell joint like this, too! Well, that's goin' some!—and with that they waved their hands and laughingly apologized for the intrusion.

It is now something like two years ago since the great school house Farm Club movement was inaugurated in Missouri. At first the progress was slow as such things inevitably are. Gradually, however, the "tiger" manifested itself and today over 30,000 of the best and most progressive farmers in the State answer to the roll calls, while the campaign is now in progress to drive the membership to 100,000 before the coming winter is over—and it was the 20 odd directors of the State Ass'n of these Farm Clubs who were in session at the above hotel—the "bunch" which caused the violent astonishment of the group of Kansas City "Captains of Industry." And to admit the truth, possibly the surprise of the gentlemen was somewhat justified—for it is perfectly true that the directors of the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n wear clean collars, fairly good clothes and believe in transacting their business at a decent hotel. And why not? Is there a greater business on earth than that of the farmer? Is there one which involves anywhere near as much money? Therefore, should those who are commissioned to speak for the farmer wear a dirty shirt, one gallus and eat and confer at a hotel which is the rendezvous of "down and outers"? And yet this is the conception which the average city man has of the farmer. He thinks of him only in the terms of a "hayseed" or "roughneck." At the time when the above interruption came, the directors were just closing a deal for binder twine for next season which will perhaps save their members \$100,000. But even that was a comparative incident in their meeting, while the subject upon which they spent most of their time that day was the future of the hog and cattle market—for be it known, the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n is vastly more concerned in what the farmer receives for his grain and live stock than in what he can save on what he buys. In fact, the Farm Clubs are, in every sense, friendly to the Country Town.

It would be hard to find a finer or more intelligent group of farmers anywhere than those who are at the head of the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n. Every one of them is a citizen of standing in his home county. Col. J. A. Hudson of Columbia, Chairman of the Executive Committee, owns perhaps the finest cattle feeding plant in the State. On his big Missouri River bottom farm are four tile silos that measure 24x65 feet, while his cattle barn will comfortably house 500 big steers. And there are other directors who are not far behind him. It was this group of men who induced Mr. Hoover to raise the price of fat cattle last winter at a conference in Washington which attracted nationwide attention and which incidentally saved the farmers of this country millions of dollars. By this it must not be inferred that the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n is made up of "silk stocking" farmers. On the contrary, the Farm Clubs appeal to the 40 acre farmer every whit as much as to the man with the big red barn. On the other hand, the men at the head of the State Ass'n believe that the best way to get a "square deal" for the farmer is to go after it just like any other set of intelligent business men would do under similar circumstances—and they are getting results which promise to make the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n known throughout the nation before long. Altogether, this lusty new organization marks a "new deal" in the realm of the farm. It means, in short, that a new force has arrived in the arena of American agriculture—a set of men who are tremendously in earnest and who believe that a pound of action is worth a ton of calamity howling.

### The Scotland County Farmers' Association

What the farmers of Scotland county have done during the last year and a half is a striking illustration of the school house Farm Club Movement in action. Nearly two years ago, C. W. Boyer and W. L. Buford organized the Price Farm Club near Gorin, Mo., with something like 20 members. Then they sent word to their neighbors in the adjoining school districts to call meetings at which things might be "talked over." This these neighbors proceeded to do and thus in a little while a half-dozen clubs were brought into being and along about this time several carloads of flour and mill feed were distributed at the wholesale price with a saving of some \$500 or \$600—and from that time on it wasn't long until the school houses began to be lighted up in every direction, with the result that today there are 51 Farm Clubs in Scotland county with a total membership of over 1200—and Scotland is one of the smallest counties in the State at that.

These 51 clubs are federated together under the Scotland County Farmers' Ass'n, which in turn is a

member of the Missouri Farmers' Association. C. F. Austin is Secretary of the county Association and has an office in the court house at Memphis. He receives a salary of \$125 per month, which is derived from the 50c county dues which every member pays, together with an assessment of 2 per cent on the gross volume of business done by the County Ass'n—and not only does this revenue pay Mr. Austin's salary but there is a handsome surplus in the County Treasury at the present time. Mr. Austin is the "right hand man" of the 51 school house Farm Clubs and he is "on the job" constantly. Last June he distributed two carloads of binder twine, while during the recent summer he shipped in enough coal not only to supply his 1200 members, but enough also for every rural school in the county. And this isn't saying anything about the many carloads of flour, mill feed, cotton seed meal and cake, linseed oil meal, tankage, potatoes, etc., which he has distributed at a saving which runs into the thousands of dollars. But Mr. Austin performs much other service. If a member wants to buy or sell some seed, Mr. Austin sees that buyer and seller get together—and both save money. If a member is in the market for some stock hogs, or if he has a carload of corn or oats for sale, Mr. Austin again gets busy and once more both parties to the transaction are money in pocket. Since the Farm Club Movement is friendly to the country town, the regular mercantile lines are never invaded and only such commodities as feed, flour, coal, binder twine, etc., are dealt in; in other words, the Farm Clubs are vastly more interested in getting a "square deal" on the farmer's grain and live stock than on what he has to buy—although the saving on the above "side lines" will run into many thousands of dollars in any average county and reimburse the members many times over for their yearly dues. Also a Federal Farm Loan Ass'n has been formed and if a farmer wants to borrow money at the lesser rate from the Government, Mr. Austin attends to all the details for him. Altogether the plan represents the most complete form of farmers' organization yet perfected and the farmers of Scotland county are tremendously pleased over it because not only is it saving them a pile of money but when they have a knotty problem of some kind, they have a man constantly at their beck and call who is paid to help them solve it. There is no busier place in Memphis, Mo., than the office of C. F. Austin, Secretary of the Scotland County Farmers' Ass'n. Just now Mr. Austin is laying the groundwork for several farmers' elevators and a number of Live Stock Shipping Associations. The first year's dues in the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n is \$2.50 and the second year \$1.50. It has no connection with the State College of Agriculture but is a movement purely of, for and by the farmers themselves.

### A Great Farmers' Conclave

During the first week of January, the 20 odd directors of the Missouri Farmers' Association will hold a weeks session at Columbia—and perhaps will be the most interesting conclave of the kind ever held in the history of American Agriculture. There have been meetings galore where the farmers were the "audience" and where the "experts" told them of the hour what to do "to be saved." Then there have been other meetings galore where bankers and business men sat in solemn judgement on the alleged shortcomings of the farmer, while the said farmer himself was unconcernedly sleeping the pigs miles away. But this time the experts, the bankers and the business men will be invited to go "way back and sit down" and keep their heads shut until they are spoken to—for the old "farmer" is going to get on the job himself and, placing the spittoon where it will be in proper range, he will, as N. J. Ball one of the directors from Montgomery County puts it, "try to find out what in the Devil is the matter with a pile of things."

First and foremost the present system of marketing grain and live stock is to come in for a thorough airing—and it is not improbable that some of the big grain speculators and packers will be asked to be present in person and state face to face why they should not be shot at sunrise. And this is not by any means said altogether in jest—for the Missouri Farmers' Association is on the "war path" on this whole matter as no farmers organization in the Country ever was before. In this connection, the building of a big farmer owned flour mill with capacity to supply 100,000 farmer families will also receive consideration—for already the project is under way. Then too, the building of Farmers' Elevators and organization of Live Stock Shipping Ass'ns will come in for a lot of attention.

Next, a Pure Seed Law, a Dog Law and a law against the organization of ill advised "Farmers' Companies" of one kind another will be whipped into final shape at that time. Also, the question of the right kind of rural school will receive attention such as it has never received from any group of farmers before. The men at the head of the Missouri Farmers' Association believe that the present country school needs to be revolutionized from top to bottom and that it is up to the farmer rather than the educator to find out what is really needed—and then set out to provide it. Likewise, the country church will come in for some real attention and country "persons" who have "opinions" will be asked to "sit in." Another interesting fact in this connection is that some of the big film concerns will be present to help figure out a plan and the cost of bringing the Moving Picture to the "cross roads." Again, the future effect of the war on Agriculture will be considered and no doubt some

of the men representing the Federal Dept. of Agriculture who are now touring Europe will be asked to be present to report their findings first hand. And then there are a lot of other things which will be inquired into which are now in the process of crystallization. In short, as Mr. Ball puts it, they will "try to find out what in the Devil is the matter with a pile of things."

### Big Binder Twine Deal

At a recent meeting at the Hotel Baltimore in Kansas City, the directors of the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n closed a deal for 1,500,000 lbs. of binder twine with one of the largest twine manufacturers in the U. S. This twine is for the 1919 wheat crop and it will be parceled out among the members of the more than 1000 school Farm Clubs which are federated to gether under the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n. It is the best quality of standard twine and was purchased at a lower figure than would have been possible at the hands of the biggest retail twine dealer in the state. During the 1918 season the Association purchased nearly one million pounds from this same concern and at the rate at which the Farm Club Movement is growing it is not improbable that the above order will be duplicated between now and May 1. During the 1918 harvest season the Farm Clubs bought their twine approximately 23 1/4 cts. delivered, while the 1919 price will be some thing like 20 cts delivered, owing to the fact that the Food Administration has reduced the cost of the raw sisal 3c per lb. Altogether, it is estimated that the Farm Clubs saved at least \$50,000 on the more than one million pounds of twine which they distributed this year and that the saving in 1919 will doubtless be double this amount.

By this the reader should not infer that the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n is a "Farmers' Store" movement or that it is making a fight on the Country town. It only deals in such commodities as mill feed, flour, cotton seed meal and cake, linseed oilmeal, coal, tankage, salt and twine—items which can be handled incalculable shipments and which constitute "side lines" in the average country town. The first years dues in a Farm Club are \$2.50. Therefore, if you use only one 50 lb. bag of twine next year and save 5c per lb. you will have your first years dues back—and all the other money you save will be "velvet." It is estimated that during the last year and a half the Farm Clubs have saved over \$500,000 on the above commodities. If you and your neighbors want to get in on the twine deal, all you need to do is to write a letter to the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n, Columbia, Mo., for Constitution and By-Laws and other information.

### Are You Short on Potatoes?

The farmers who belong to the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n are shipping in a lot of Northern potatoes for eating purposes and for seed for next spring also. At this writing the best quality of eating potatoes can be bought for 1.05 per bushel in bulk and \$1.15 per bushel, sacked. This should make it possible to deliver them, freight paid, at the average point in Missouri for from \$1.30 to \$1.50 per bushel—and in view of the fact that this year's crop is 4,000,000 bu. short, it will be surprising if they do not go to \$3 per bushel between now and next spring. Beyond any question this is the time to lay in your seed for next year. Again, no time should be lost in ordering shipment in order that delivery may be obtained before freezing weather sets in so they may not become frost bitten in transit. The average car contains 800 bushels and all the farmers of any community need to do is to organize three of our school house Farm Clubs—and this can be done within a weeks time if farmers will write the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n, Columbia, Mo., for the necessary Constitution and By-Laws. It is practically certain that a carload of potatoes bought through the Ass'n at this time will save between \$600 and \$800 for the farmers who participate in it.

### Cotton Seed Meal and Cake

Cotton seed meal and cake and linseed oilmeal are among the commodities distributed by the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n at the wholesale price and cattle feeders who are in the market should lose no time in organizing a Farm Club in their school districts and thus save several dollars per ton. For further information address the Association at Columbia, Mo.

### UNITED WAR WORK CAMPAIGN

Never before in warfare have women played so active a part in reinforcing the fighting men and relieving them from other work that they might fight. Thus, the field of the Young Women's Christian Association in war work has been a great one. In America the Association's most striking welfare project has been the establishment of hostess houses in the camps where the men may receive visiting relatives. Army officers have

asserted that these houses do much to elevate the plane of a training camp and to dispel the homesickness which causes desertions and lowers morale.

In the war zone the Y. W. C. A. provides social workers, recreation leaders, physical directors, and cafeteria managers for the thousands of American women nurses, Signal Corps girls, telephone operators, and other English-speaking women employed with the American forces. The Association also does welfare work for the girls employed in many of the French munition plants. The Y. W. C. A. maintains centres and restaurants for these American women engaged in work in support of the Government.

"Surround the camps with hospitality," is the purpose of the War Camp Community Service. It ministers to the needs of the soldier, sailor or marine when he is outside of his camp or off ship. Recognizing that an indifferent community is a menace to our fighting men and hence to our fighting strength, the organization concentrates on putting our men in touch with the best elements of civilian life. This unit conducts, at railway stations and other points frequented by enlisted men, information booths where they can be directed to wholesome entertainment, recreation or athletics. Municipalities are induced to provide band concerts or to furnish club houses. When necessary, the War Camp Community Service opens clubs where men may rest, bathe, enjoy music, buy soft drinks or obtain lodging.

A feature of the work of this organization is to check home-sickness. This is done through inviting the men to visit homes where they have home-cooked meals. Visitors to camps, especially in the early stages of the training, have found this to be one of the most important phases of civilian activity with regard to soldiers.

The morale of the more than 100,000 Jewish boys fighting for America is taken care of by the Jewish Welfare Board. In addition to recreational and athletic work along the lines of the K. of C. and the Y. M. C. A., the board specializes on Americanizing the many young Jewish men who have not been in this country very long—though long enough to join the colors. Putting them in touch with American ideals and history, perfecting their English, teaching many to read and write the language, these are only a few of the ways in which the board makes the Jewish soldier more valuable to America and welds him firmly into the American fighting machine.

The organization also bridges divergences between the Jewish and Gentile soldiers, safeguarding the religious rights of the former while bringing them into better understanding with Christian fellows-in-arms. There are now more than fifty huts in operation, and 100 additional units are planned. The workers in home camps number 200, while 100 men and the same number of women are being sent overseas.

### THE NEW ARMY CANTEN

Old soldiers who bemoaned the passing of the army canteen of other days are opening their eyes now and looking upon the growth of something in its place that is far better from every angle in view-point—a glorified canteen which succors the morals as well as the body and gives wholesome diversion, comforts, and recreation to the fighting men.

Our dear old heroes of the G. A. R. and the Confederate veterans will tell you, if you question them and they search their conscience for the answer, that the canteen of Civil War days had many serious defects, so serious in many cases as to more than offset whatever pleasures it afforded. The canteen was the gathering place for the boys both of the Blue and the Gray, and while it served a necessary purpose in supplying the nicknacks, sweets and small comforts ever dear to the heart of the soldier, it was also the source of riotous dissipation.

The canteens of other days usually were conducted by army sutlers and camp followers who were conscienceless profiteers as a class. Many of them became the carpet baggers of the South and were responsible for much of the disorder of reconstruction days, delaying the wiping out of sectional feeling. They mulcted the soldiers, sold them the vilest liquors, drew their pay, promoted gambling and were largely responsible for camp immorality.

Veterans will admit that they have seen many fine young men go into the army and come out as moral wrecks through having succumbed to the lures of the convivial canteen and its pernicious surroundings. This was true, in slighter degree, even in the Spanish-American war when some of the regiments permitted profiteering sutlers to operate, though most of the military units conducted their own canteens but gave limited service of a questionable sort.

It has remained for the great world war to put in the field through civilian agencies the glorified canteen combining all the virtues of the old style with a thousand improvements conducive to wholesome fun, better morale and personal catering to the individual wants of the soldiers and sailors. This canteen is the hut of the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A., the Knights of Columbus, Salvation Army or Jewish Welfare Board, along with the War Camp Community Service and the American Library Association.

The army canteen of today is the combined service of these seven agencies identified with the United War Service Campaign. It is operated, not by profiteers or disciples of cant who wear their religion on their sleeves, but by earnest, cheerful men and women who are risking their lives and giving unselfishly of their means and time to make our boys' lot more endurable—to give them wholesome entertainment, plenty of good fun in a moral atmosphere, and some of the good things that remind them of home. Will you help, during the campaign from Nov. 11th to 18th, to prove to the world that the canteen of the American army and navy is the best ever known?

### PROCLAMATION

State of Missouri, Executive Dept.

It is not necessary for me to call the attention of the people of the state to the noble purposes of freedom for which the manhood of America is fighting on a foreign soil. Our commonwealth has arisen to a splendid understanding of these principles as expressed in the purchase of Liberty Bonds and subscriptions to other war campaigns. That the world may be free from autocratic oppression, millions of our young men have separated themselves from their accustomed civilian life, with all its domestic influence. There is, therefore, a natural need in France, and in our cantonments, for the agencies that will supply, in some measure at least, the wholesome influence of the American home, the church and society.

Seven organizations, authorized by the Government to care for the welfare of the men in the service, have been requested by President Wilson to combine their campaigns. These organizations are: the Young Men's Christian Association, The Young Women's Christian Association, the National Catholic War Council (K. of C.), the Jewish Welfare Board, War Camp Community Service, the American Library Association and the Salvation Army.

The manner in which these organizations, since the very inception of the war, have contributed to the welfare, comfort and convenience of the men in the service is a source of continuous satisfaction to every loyal American.

Every good citizen will agree with the wise suggestion of the President and regard it as a great privilege to contribute to the point of real sacrifice to sustain the work of these organizations.

Now, therefore, I, Frederick D. Gardner, Governor of Missouri, do hereby proclaim that the week beginning Sunday, November 10, 1918, shall be designated and set apart for the United War Work Campaign. I appeal for earnest attention to the work and a liberal response to the call for the funds absolutely necessary for its maintenance.

Despite the numerous so-called peace offensives of the enemy, the coming year promises to be the most critical one of the war. We will have at least another two million men in the service, and it is highly necessary to the morale of that noble army that they experience no interruption of this morale-making work which has entered into their army life, bringing them happiness and courage. To see there is no interruption is the part of those OUR BOYS have left at home—our part.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri.

Done at the City of Jefferson, this 29th day of October, A. D., (SEAL) 1918.

(Signed) FREDERICK D. GARDNER, By the Governor: JOHN L. SULLIVAN, Secretary of State.

### About Croup

If your children are subject to croup, or if you have reason to fear their being attacked by that disease, you should procure a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and study the directions for use, so that in case of an attack you will know exactly what course to pursue. This is a favorite and very useful remedy for croup, and it is important that you observe the directions carefully. (adv)

### MISSOURI BRINGS GRAPHIC STORY OF WAR WELFARE WORK

Wm. H. Danforth, of St. Louis, recently returned from France where he was a "Y" worker and will serve as a sort of "Exhibit A" in the United War Work Campaign, Nov. 11-18, telling Missourians just what the men and women of the Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., the Knights of Columbus, Jewish Welfare Board, Salvation Army, etc., are doing for the boys at the front.

Danforth is one of an army of wealthy men who pay their own expenses and risk their lives to serve their brothers in khaki, undergoing the same trials and hardships that fall to the lot of equally patriotic but less prominent or poorer men and women who are carrying on the work of the associated agencies. Danforth turned from the duties of a district director of the "Y" to drive a car as chauffeur for H. E. Sothern, the actor, and A. W. Ames, theatrical magnate, who were arranging entertainments for the soldiers.

Danforth was at the Marne when the German tide was turned. For many hours he remained under hot shell fire and served the boys with hot coffee and also aided the ambulance men. He will relate his experience to Missouri audiences in order to bring the work of the war agencies engaged in the forthcoming campaign for funds a little nearer to the folks at home.

### WHEN NEURALGIA ATTACKS NERVES

Sloan's Liniment scatters the congestion and relieves pain

A little, applied without rubbing, will penetrate immediately and rest and soothe the nerves.

Sloan's Liniment is very effective in allaying external pains, strains, bruises, aches, stiff joints, sore muscles, lumbago, neuritis, sciatica, rheumatic twinges. Keep a big bottle always on hand for family use. Druggists everywhere.

**Sloan's**  
Liniment  
Kills Pain

### MICKIE SAYS

THE WINDY GUY WHO BREEZES IN HERE AND HANDS THE BOSS A LINE OF CHATTER 'BOUT HIS BUSINESS 'N WHAT A LOTTA ADVANTISING HE'S GOIN' T' DO, GITS JEST WHAT HE PAYS FER 'ROUND THIS OFFICE! 'TALK 'BOUT CONTRACTIN' FER A QUARTER PAGE BY THE YEAR DONT EVEN GIT A FREE TWO-BIT LOCAL OUTA ME NO MORE! SAYS THE BOSS!



### UPHOLD MISSOURI'S PRESTIGE

Missouri's share in the great world war, that now appears to be reaching the final stages, has reflected glory on the Land of the Big Red Apple. Imperial Missouri has loyally responded to the call to the colors, and now more than 100,000 of her bravest sons are wearing the khaki.

Missouri has responded generously to every financial call. She has more than met every obligation. She has gone over the top on the First, Second, Third and Fourth Liberty Loans. She has bought millions of dollars in Thrift Stamps.

Her contributions to the Red Cross have been as generous as that of any other State. She has never been weighed in the balance and found wanting.

Now Missourians must not be misled by peace talk, and peace appearances, and feel that their obligations are at an end. Missouri sent your boy and my boy to the war to fight for the right and to uphold the glory and traditions of our wonderful State and Country. We have pledged ourselves to support and sustain them. That pledge must be redeemed.

Even if peace came today we are not through. Thousands of boys, yours and mine, are in hospitals or camps "over there." They need every attention we can bestow. They need the books that the American Library Association will give. They need the visits of the entertainers of the Y. M. C. A. They need the coffee and the doughnuts of the Salvation Army. They need the ministrations of the Y. W. C. A., the Knights of Columbus, the Jewish Welfare Board.

Every mother's son of them will receive this and more if Missouri fails not in the campaign that will begin Nov. 11 to raise \$7,500,500 to hearten "Our Boys" and bring them back safely to us. And Missouri will not fail.

St. Louis and Kansas City will raise two-thirds of this amount. The citizens of the rest of the state will not fail to do their duty, and give freely from their plenty.

### THE SCHOOLS IN DANGER

American schools are in danger of grave depreciation unless the American people face the school problem squarely, as they have faced every other problem that has confronted them. The schools are suffering from the two all-absorbing problems of the day—the war and high cost of living.

Wages and salaries in almost every other vocation have risen pretty much in keeping with the cost of living. Still the teachers grind on at practically the same old starvation wages. If the harm done were only in forcing a number of people to live on inadequate wages, the matter would not be very serious. But the harm does not stop here. The impossibility of obtaining living salaries is inevitably forcing the ambitious man or woman out of the profession and into some other calling that is more generous.

The natural result must be the filling of the schools with a lot of second-rate teachers, boys and girls who regard the school room as merely a stop-gap between their own school days and a profession—nice boys and nice girls, we grant you, but lacking much of being competent instructors. The only possible result of this condition must be the grievous neglect of the youth of the land.

And just at this crisis this country cannot afford to neglect her children. America has had too hard a struggle to reach her present intellectual plane to afford to yield one fraction of the progress she has made. We have made too many sacrifices in the name of education and culture and intellectual and moral uplift to be willing to take one backward step. We MUST go on, in justice to future generations, in justice to the ideals that have inspired us.

Already the complaint comes from many sections of the country that numbers of the more competent teachers, disgusted with the meager salaries, are leaving the school-room for more lucrative callings. Once out, and this talent is forever lost to the schools, because the channels of business will quickly and eagerly absorb them.

There is but one remedy, and that is for the people to look the situation squarely in the face, and be willing to levy taxes for school purposes that shall put the teaching profession up and abreast the other professions. More, perhaps, than on any other class is the future of this country dependent upon the faithful work of her pedagogues. We must suit the reward to the magnitude of the work.